



Terwilliger Fire Update



Southern Cascades Interagency Incident Management Team

Incident Commander, Neil Miller Incident Commander Trainee, Dirk Rogers

September 28, 2018 - 9:00 A.M.

Special Announcements: The Terwilliger Fire Area Closure implemented August 30th, 2018 by the Willamette National Forest, remains in place and is strictly enforced. Safety of the public and firefighters remains priority directive. Active fire and fire suppression operations continue on the landscape. Violators will be prosecuted. **Please refrain from entering the closed areas.**

Both Forest Service Road (FR) 19 and Terwilliger Hot Springs (also known as Cougar Hot Springs) are within the Terwilliger Area Closure. They remain closed due to unsafe conditions from gravity fall hazards including rocks, debris and fire weakened trees. The closure begins at the junction of FR 410 south to Box Canyon. **The public is asked to respect the road and area closures for protection to themselves and firefighters.**

The **McKenzie River District will be conducting prescribed burns on the District beginning Friday.** The planned low intensity fires on the landscape are not in proximity to the Terwilliger Fire and should produce minimal smoke in the area.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the McKenzie Ranger District, Willamette National Forest jointly responded to the report of the Terwilliger Fire with both aircraft and firefighter resources. Although the fire did not burn on to ODF protected lands, the agency has stayed involved with suppression actions and planning.

Acreage: 11,445; acreage increase resulted by a current infrared flight.

Cause: The fire is currently under investigation.

Completion: 80%

Public Information Phone: (541) 822-8216 Available 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Resources: Total personnel assigned – 173: 3-type 2 IA hand crews, 1-heavy lift helicopter, 1-light lift helicopter, 5-engines, 1-dozer, 4-water tender, 2-ambulances, 4-masticators, and 19-heavy equipment.

Current Fire Information: A smoke column from Division P (interior of the East Fork of the South Fork within the perimeter in the Three Sisters Wilderness) was visible Thursday as fuels ignited. The short runs in the heavy dead and down fuels are expected to continue until the weather changes. Firefighters are monitoring and being vigilant of any unexpected fire movement. Firefighters and mechanized equipment continue to work along FR 1993, removing unnecessary fuels strengthening the fuel break.

Engine crews in Division A (west side of the fire near private lands) continue to mop up and patrol. Suppression repairs are being implemented where feasible.

Division D continues mop, patrol and clearing road and ditches

Division Z (south end) detected very little smoke or heat in recent shifts. Crews are continuing mop up, patrol, and extinguishing all smokes

FR 19 remains closed during these operations. Culvert replacement under FR 19, at Boone Creek, and the contract scaling operation to reduce gravity hazards such as loose boulders and fire weakened trees

operations continue moving north along FR 19. All material is being moved off-site to Strube Flat for utilization, as determined by local forest district management.

Hazard tree falling along FR 500 is ongoing to reduce fire weakened trees along this road system. Logs will be decked for future processing.

Weather: Highs 80 to 90 degrees and minimum relative humidity near 12-24% with no precipitation expected. Ridgetop winds from the east 3-5 mph gusts to 10 mph in the early evening. An onshore flow will strengthen late Friday and Saturday raising relative humidities, lowering daytime temperatures with partly cloudy skies and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Restrictions: A Forest-wide campfire ban on the Willamette National Forest has implemented, including all campgrounds and Wilderness areas. For specific information on Forest Order 06-18-01-18-18, see the Willamette National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notices>.

Closures: An Area Closure has been issued by the Willamette National Forest for the protection and safety of the public and firefighters. Closure order # 06-18-01-18-19 may be viewed in its entirety at <http://go.usa.gov/xRnz7> or on [Inciweb](http://inciweb). Please respect the closure areas for your and firefighter safety.

Air Quality: For smoke monitoring information, see Oregon Department of Environmental Quality <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map> or <https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/> or <http://www.lrapa.org>. Any smoke in the air has the potential to be an irritant to those with sensitivities, stay informed and take proper precautions.

Safety Consideration: The persistent weather pattern of warmer and dryer increases the chance of a single spark starting.

Information Websites: Inciweb – <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160> **Email:** terwilligerfireinfo@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/willamettewildfires/>

